

Message Text

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16

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-12 AID-20 OMB-01 T-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 RSR-01 EA-11 /150 W

----- 085061

R 171439 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6184

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

COMIDEASTFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 0821

NOFORN

FROM QUINLAN MUSCAT

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MU YS UK UAE PINS

SUBJECT: CONTINUED ROUNDUP PFLOAG REBELS IN NORTHERN OMAN

1. SUMMARY. TOTAL PFLOAG REBEL ROUNDUP NOW 88, OF WHOM 55 AWAITING TRIAL, 33 STILL BEING INTERROGATED. LATEST BATCH INCLUDES ANOTHER IRAQI- TRAINED OFFICER. HAVE NOW LEARNED THAT ENTIRE PFLOAG OPERATION INCLUDING RECRUITMENT, TRAINING, ARMS SUPPLY, WAS ARRANGED IN TEN MONTHS, INDICATING OMAN IS FERTILE GROUND FOR REBELLION. THIS HAS LED AT LEAST ONE EXPERIENCED INTELLIGENCE OFFICER TO WARN SULTAN HE MUST DEAL WITH DEEPSEATED CORRUPTION IN HIGH PLACES AND GROWING DISPARITY INCOMES AND BENEFITS OF DEVELOPMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. TOTAL REBELS PICKED UP TO DATE NOW 88, OF WHOM 55 ARE IN JALALI PRISON AWAITING TRIAL. SECOND BATCH OF 33 PICKED UP
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IN LAST SEVERAL WEEKS INCLUDE 8 WOMEN, ANOTHER IRAQI- MILITARY ACADEMY GRADUATE, AND FOUR SOLDIERS. OFFICER HAD BEEN " TROUBLEMAKER," WAS TRANSFERRED OUT OF REGULAR ARMY INTO GENDARMERIE FOR THAT REASON. HE AND SOLDIERS ALL CLAIM THEY RECRUITED NOT AS PFLOAG REBELS BUT AS MEMBERS FRATERNITY ARABS SEEKING PROTECT OMANI INTERESTS AGAINST BRITISH, BALUCH, PAKISTANI SOLDIERY AND OFFICERS. INTERESTING THAT NOT ONE ZANZIBARI OMANI IN LOT.

3. SIZEABLE ARMS CACHE FOUND AT HAZM; INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS BELIEVE THEY HAVE NOW FOUND VIRTUALLY ENTIRE SUPPLY OF ARMS FROM PDRY; INTERROGATIONS HAVE REVEALED SIZE AND TYPES OF ALL SHIPMENTS - BY DHOW FROM ADEN TO SUR IN JUNE 1972, THENCE TO SIB AND OTHER POINTS.

4. SEQUENCE PFLOAG CONSPIRACY NOW DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: HARD- CORE PFLOAG REBEL KNOWN GENERALLY AS AHMAD ALI, WHO HAS ESCAPED PICKUP, ARRIVED FROM ADEN FEBRUARY 1972, TO ORGANIZE INSURRECTION; HE ORGANIZED LEADERSHIP CELL AND OTHER FIVE- SIX MAN CELLS THROUGHOUT NORTHERN OMAN. IN OCTOBER AHMAD ALI ORDERED TRAINING BEGUN AND IN NOVEMBER BROUGHT INSTRUCTIONS FROM ADEN THAT ACTION NEEDED TO TAKE PRESSURE OFF REBELS IN DHOFAR. PLAN WAS TO ATTACK OMAN MILITARY INSTALLATIONS JANUARY 1 THEN WITH DRAW TO INTERIOR MOUNTAINS TO LIVE OFF LAND CASTRO STYLE.

5. VETERAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER WHO IS SOURCE OF ABOVE CONFIRMED EARLIER EMBASSY REPORTS THAT OMANI PUBLIC REACTION WAS INITIALLY APATHETIC AND EVEN UNSYMPATHETIC TO ARMY AND POLICE ROUNDUP, JUDGING THAT REBELS ONLY OPPOSED TO BRITISH AND OTHER FOREIGN PRESENCE. HE SAYS, NOW THAT PHOTOGRAPHS AND PUBLIC DISPLAYS PROVING WEAPONS AND ARMS WERE NEW AND CHINESE- MADE HAS TURNED AROUND PUBLIC OPINION COMPLETELY. SAME SOURCE ALSO VERY CONCERNED HOWEVER AT SPEED WITH WHICH REBEL FOLLOWERS WERE RECRUITED FROM WIDE VARIETY LOCATIONS, CLASSES AND PROFESSIONS. HE HAS WARNED SULTAN PERSONALLY THAT THIS INDICATES THERE IS FERTILE GROUND FOR SUBVERSION, BASED ON GROWING INEQUALITIES OF INCOME, GOVERNMENT CORRUPTION IN HIGH PLACES, MALDISTRIBUTION DEVELOPMENT BENEFITS, AND WEAK GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION.
STOLTZFUS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 MAR 1973
DecapTION Date: 28 MAY 2004
DecapTION Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KUWAIT00821
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730331/aaaahxwb.tel
Line Count: 108
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: NOFORN
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NOFORN
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02-Jan-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <14-Jan-2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 971211
Subject: CONTINUED ROUNDUP PFLOAG REBELS IN NORTHERN OMAN
TAGS: PINS, MU, UK, YS
To: NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO ABU DHABI
AMMAN
JIDDA
MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

